

# MORAVIAN COLLEGE - FALL 2013

## ECONOMICS 236 INTERNATIONAL ECONOMICS

### Course Syllabus

**Course Instructor:** Dr. James P. West, Professor, Economic and Business Department

**Office:** Room 215 Comenius Hall; Phone 610.861.1381;  
e-mail: [westj@moravian.edu](mailto:westj@moravian.edu)

**Office Hours:** MW 9-10; TTH: 10:30-11:30; 1:30 – 2:30

**Course Description:** The course on international trade is designed to provide a comprehensive introduction to the theory and practice of trade relations among sovereign nations as well as the development of international public and private organizations. Classical and modern theories of trade, foreign aid, trade and development, regional integration, globalization and the role of international banking, WTO, IMF, the World Bank and the UN in promoting global integration will be covered.

**Course Objectives:** International trade and finance issues and in particular the role of the United States in the world economy is the subject of this course. It is my desire to awaken in the student the desire to begin a systematic understanding of the history, theory, institutions, and practice of international trade. Topics include classical and modern theories of trade, free trade vs. protectionism, regional and global integration, MNC investment and so on. The course will also provide an investigation into economic regions of the world including Japan and East Asia, Latin America, Africa, European Community and the transition economies of former socialist or communist nations. Balance of Payments, Exchange Rates and Macroeconomic Policy in an open economy will also be explored.

### **Required Texts:**

International Economics, 6<sup>th</sup> Edition by James Gerber, Pearson Publishing 2014.

Assigned websites.

### **Recommended:**

The Wall Street Journal; Additional articles will be distributed in class, placed on 'Blackboard' or put on reserve in the Library

### **Course Requirements, Grading and Class Policy:**

The class format will be lecture/discussion and will actively enlist student participation in the discussion of assigned topics. This necessitates regular attendance and the reading of the material before class. This class will closely follow current issues as they unfold in the global economy and will necessitate your regular reading of international news. Semester exams will be given and will count for 20% each. A class grade will comprise the remaining 20% and will be based on course projects, quizzes, homework, attendance and participation. Details of course projects will be distributed in class. Exams must be taken as scheduled. Make-up exams require documented authorization.

Academic Honesty: Policies on academic honesty outlined in the Moravian College student handbook are applicable in this course and will be enforced.

Students who wish to request accommodations in this class for a disability should contact Elaine Mara, assistant director of learning services for academic and disability support at 1307 Main Street, or by calling 610-861-1510. Accommodations cannot be provided until authorization is received from the Academic Support Center.

### **Class Schedule**

#### **Week Of**

Tuesday, 8/27- Introduction to the Global Economy; Chapter 1- text.

Tuesday, 9/3 - The United States in the Global Economy. International Institutions. Chapter 2 and 13.

Tuesday, 9/10 – Comparative Advantage and the Gains from Trade; Chapter 3 text.

Tuesday, 9/17 – Factor Endowments and Trade; Chapter 4

Tuesday, 9/24 New Trade Theories; Chapter 5 text. The European Union Chapter 14.

Tuesday, 10/1 - Review – Exam 1 (Chapters 1-5,) Thursday 10/3);

Tuesday, 10/8 - The Theory of Tariffs and Quotas; Chap. 6 text. Latin America. Chapter 15.

Thursday, 10/17 - Tariffs and Commercial Policy; Chapter 7 text. (No Class 10/15 Fall Break).

Tuesday, 10/22 - International Trade and Labor and Environmental Issues. Chapter 8 text.

Tuesday, 10/29 - Review and Test 2 (Chapters 6, 7, 8) Thursday 10/31. Last day for 'W' Friday (11/1)

Tuesday, 11/5 – Trade and The Balance of Payments; Chapter 9 text. East Asian Economies, Chapter 16.

Tuesday 11/12 - Exchange Rates and Issues in International Finance; Chapters 10 and 11 text.

Tuesday, 11/19 - International Macroeconomics; Chapter 12. Review. Test 3 (Chapters 10. 11.12) Thurs

Saturday, 11/23–12/1 Thanksgiving Break-classes resume on 12/2

Tuesday, 12/3 – The BRIC Economies and Africa, Chapter 17.  
Review for Final Exam. 12/5 Last day of class.

Sat-Sun 12/7-8 Reading Days

Mon-Sat 12/9-14 Final Exam - Chapters 13-17 plus critical issues in Chapters 1-12.